GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:153
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
PROTECTION OF WETLAND SITES
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU;VAIKO

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 1998, the Government had committed at an international convention to identify and protect 30 wetland sites in the country, covering an area of 2.6 million hectares of wetland;

(b) whether financial assistance has been offered by any international agency for the purpose;

(c) the funds required by Government to extend meaningful and significant protection to the new wetland sites; and

(d) the details of plans to enforce protection of the proposed wetland sites?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

(SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SBAHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 153 FOR 6.3.2000 REGAR PROTECTION OF WETLAND SITES.

(a) In the Seventh Meeting of Contracting Parties of Ramsar Convention held in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 10-18th May, 1999, Government of India declared twenty new wetlands in the country as Ramsar sites. No commitment either on the names or the covered area of wetlands was made.
(b) No, Sir.
(c) and (d) Ten new wetlands have already been identified and additional wetlands will be identified shortly. The requirement of funds and protection Plans for the new Wetland sites depend on the identification of all the sites.